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SOURCE Newspapers and periodical as indicated.

PROGRESS OF TELEVISION IN THE USSR SINCE 1952

[The following report is a compilation of information published in Soviet newspapers and periodicals in 1952 and early 1953 on the development of television facilities in the USSR.]

The Deputy Minister of Communications, V. Z. Topurin, declared in an interview in Izvestiya on 7 January 1953 that the Soviet people could be proud of their accomplishments in the field of television. He revealed that the first television equipment was manufactured for the Moscow television center, which began operation after being equipped in 1949. In 1951, the re-equipping of the Leningrad television center was completed. Topurin added that regular transmission of television began in Kiev in 1952.

Topurin said that in the next 2-3 years new television centers will be built in a number of towns, and work will be carried out to increase the distance of transmission. According to Topurin, mass production of television sets resulted in doubling their output in 1951, in comparison to 1950, and in 1952 the population received still more television sets. Topurin explained that the transmission of television programs by wires was being developed; wired receivers, which are much cheaper and simpler than regular receivers, reproduce the sound and picture.(1)

Radio of May 1952 claimed that the technical competence of radio amateurs is revealed in the construction of small educational television centers in Khar'kov, Riga, Sverdlovsk, Odessa, etc.(2)

According to Sovetskaya Latviya of 13 August 1952, 2,147 television sets have been installed in Mytishchinskiy Rayon of Moskovskaya Oblast. The article stated that, so far in 1952, the residents of the rayon had acquired 975 television sets.(3) The same information was reported in Pravda on 13 August 1952 and in Stalingradskaya Pravda on 14 August 1952.(4, 5) On 11 April 1952, Vechernyaya Moskva reported that there were more than 600 television sets in Ukhtomskiy Rayon.(6)

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On 4 January 1953, Moskovskaya Pravda revealed that the reception of television programs beyond the city limits of Moscow is frequently unsatisfactory. The picture blurs and becomes diffused, although later its clarity is restored. Moskovskaya Pravda explained that clear reception is guaranteed only within a radius of 50-70 kilometers from the television center. The article stated that the construction of intermediate relay stations could eliminate inadequacies in reception. Through the initiative of radio amateur Fedotov, it was decided to build an amateur relay station in Kolomna. The station is to receive and amplify Moscow television broadcasts. Its operational radius is to be 5-7 kilometers, and after its completion KVN-49 and T-2 Leningrad television sets installed in Kolomna and its environs will reproduce clear pictures. A group of radio amateurs, including Fedotov, Filatov, Orlov, and Marynskiy, have begun installing the relay station's equipment.

Moskovskaya Pravda reported also that recently a group of radio amateurs visited the Moscow central radio club to become acquainted with the installation of relay equipment. The paper stated that there were more than 40 owners of television sets in Kolomna and Kolomenskiy Rayon, but that after the construction of the relay station their number would undoubtedly increase.(7)

On 19 August 1952, Izvestiya declared that Dosaaf recently conducted tests with positive results, under the Central Laboratory of Television, for receiving television broadcasts from Moscow. The screen of the T-1 Moskvich television set, 214 kilometers from Moscow as the crow flies, reproduced a clear image and the sound accompaniment was fully satisfactory.(8)

I. Buchkov, chief of the Leningrad television center, expressed the view in Leningradskaya Pravda of 3 October 1952 that television relay lines must be built in the course of the Fifth Five-Year Plan. He said that the shortage of spare units and parts at existing television centers must also be corrected in the course of the Fifth Five-Year Plan by constructing plants manufacturing spare parts. Buchkov also pointed out that the building which houses the Leningrad television center is inadequate. The studio is more than half filled by equipment, service personnel, and scenery. He declared that it would be desirable to construct a special building for technical equipment between 1951 and 1955.(9)

According to Pravda of 23 August 1952, about 25,000 television sets have been installed in the homes of residents of Kiev.(10) On 17 February 1953, Pravda Ukrainy reported that more than 4,500 television sets are switched on in Kiev regularly, five times a week. The paper continued: The Kiev television center, which is the largest in the country, is equipped with powerful first-class equipment. A spacious, four-story building is being built for it on ulitsa Kreshchatika. Up to now, concerts and shows have been transmitted from the small studio. A large studio with an area of 300 square meters and a volume of 3,000 cubic meters will soon be put in operation. The great problem of increasing the radius of operation of the television center is also being resolved. Transmissions from Kiev are received not only in Kiyevskaya, Chernigovskaya, Zhitomirskaya, and Poltavskaya oblasts, but also in other distant oblasts. Radio amateurs see and hear television transmissions in Gomel', which is 225 kilometers from Kiev, and in Rovno, which is 300 kilometers from the Ukrainian capital.(11) On 31 December 1952, Kommunist Tadzhikistana stated that the number of television sets installed in kolkhozes around Kiev had increased considerably. More than 60 television sets had been installed in Borispol'skiy and Brovarskiy rayons and about 30 in Vasil'kovskiy Rayon.(12)

On 11 January 1953, Kommunist pointed out that 2 years have passed since the creation of the amateur television center in Khar'kov. The article stated that about 500 workers, employees, engineers, and scientists have television receivers. They hear and see broadcasts regularly four times a week. In 1951,

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50 art and 150 documentary films were shown. Workers of the television center recently installed new equipment which has increased the power of the transmitter. An installation has been built with the aid of which not only movie films, but also concerts from radio stations and theaters, can be transmitted.(13)

According to Sovetskiy Svyazist of June 1952, an educational and experimental television center has been created in Odessa, under the leadership of Docent M. Gliklikh and senior teacher A. Sorenzon, by the Electrical Engineering Institute of Communications. Other television enthusiasts involved were Engineers Demin, Kalabin, Taranets, and others. Workers of the Department of Radio Transmitting Installations of the institute completed the complex work on the construction and preparation of the television center's transmitters under the guidance of Docent I. Shumlyanskiy. Sovetskiy Svyazist reported that successful telecasts were made using the Soviet standard of 625 lines. Public viewings of television transmissions were organized in the houses of scientists, in a radio club, in a hydrotechnical institute, etc. The television center, the article concluded, is used for practice and instruction.(14)

On 18 November 1952, Pravda Ukrainy reported that Gomel' has had a very active club of radio amateurs whose members have taken a great interest in television. In the past they have constructed a number of crystal sets and vacuum tube receivers which received high ratings at republic radio amateur exhibitions. Pravda Ukrainy explained that the members of the club wanted to organize the reception of television broadcasts from Kiev. Gribanov solved the difficult problem of receiving television programs over such a long distance. He attached a radio-frequency amplifier to the television receiver and replaced the ordinary television antenna by a four-element folded dipole array. Pravda Ukrainy declared that in November Gomel' amateurs viewed television broadcasts from Kiev, and that regular reception of programs from Kiev would be sponsored in the radio club.(15)

SOURCES

1. Moscow, Izvestiya, 7 Jan 53
2. Moscow, Radio, No 5, May 52
3. Riga, Sovetskaya Latvija, 13 Aug 52
4. Moscow, Pravda, 13 Aug 52
5. Stalingradskaya Pravda, 14 Aug 52
6. Moscow, Vechernyaya Moskva, 11 Apr 52
7. Moskovskaya Pravda, 4 Jan 53
8. Izvestiya, 19 Aug 52
9. Leningradskaya Pravda, 3 Oct 52
10. Pravda, 23 Aug 52
11. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 17 Feb 53
12. Stalinabad, Kommunist Tadzhikistana, 31 Dec 52
13. Yerevan, Kommunist, 11 Jan 53
14. Moscow, Sovetskiy Svyazist, No 6, Jun 52
15. Pravda Ukrainy, 18 Nov 52

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